



County of San Bernardino
Office of the District Attorney
MICHAEL A. RAMOS, District Attorney

3 September 2007

Laura Giles, MSG
Program Officer, Archstone Foundation
401 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 1000, Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: SBDA Letter of Support for S.B. Dept. of Aging and Adult Services

Dear Ms. Giles:

The San Bernardino County Office of the District Attorney, supports the efforts of the County of San Bernardino Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) in their application to Phase II of the Archstone Foundation Elder Abuse and Neglect Initiative, joining in efforts to improve the quality and coordination of elder abuse and neglect services in California.

This office has participated in local efforts with DAAS to maintain effective elder abuse-related multidisciplinary team activities. We recognize the contribution made by DAAS in their ongoing collaboration with multiple San Bernardino County agencies including the Public Guardian, law enforcement, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and a host of other agencies who have joined together in multidisciplinary team's activities in an effort to protect dependent adults and elders with suspected abuse. These efforts include collaboration with our elder abuse multidisciplinary team, and organization of regional APS elder abuse multi-disciplinary teams and the County Elder Death Review team (in which this office has participated)

We also recognize their help to our elder abuse prosecution efforts in the recent past. This assistance has included monthly participation in our multidisciplinary team activities and participation in our efforts to educate law enforcement in the area of elder abuse. We will make every effort to collaborate with this project through the participation of attorneys in our Family Violence Unit in the intended activities of this project, including active participation in the Project goal of developing better procedures for inter-agency collaboration in efforts to identify and reduce instances of elder abuse in San Bernardino County, and assuring the efficiency and effectiveness of protective actions undertaken to ensure safety of elders in jeopardy.

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Whenever possible, we will participate in multidisciplinary team efforts to identify and ameliorate local barriers to the resolution of self-neglect and other forms of abuse. We are committed to active participation in Project activities such as the Project coordinating committee, and special multidisciplinary team meetings.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL A. RAMOS
District Attorney

By: 

DENISE TRAGER DVORAK
Supervising Deputy District Attorney
Family Violence Unit Coordinator